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FIELD CROPS

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 2001



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FLORIDA

Florida farmers indicated in early March that they intend to plant more peanuts and less corn, cotton, soybeans, and wheat in 2001 than in 2000. The acreage of hay and tobacco will be the same as last year.

Corn producers expect to plant 78,000 acres, down 8 percent from the previous year. The acreage planted to cotton is expected to be 120,000 acres, 8 percent less than last year. Peanut acreage is expected to be 95,000 acres, up 1 percent from 2000. Soybean acreage is expected to be 15,000 acres, down 25 percent from the previous year. Tobacco growers expect to plant 4,500 acres the same as in 2000. The winter wheat acreage, at 10,000 acres, is down 23 percent from a year earlier. The hay for harvest acreage is estimated at 270,000 acres, the same as the previous year.

UNITED STATES

Corn growers intend to plant 76.7 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2001, down 4 percent from 2000 and down 1 percent from 1999. Expected acreage is down in almost all areas of the United States. Plantings are down throughout the Corn Belt due mostly to the high cost of inputs and low price prospects. Farmers intentions shifted away from corn in Texas and Louisiana as planting was hampered by frequent rains during the spring. Dry soils and lack of water reserves in the Southeast reduced intended corn plantings. The only region where farmers intend to plant more corn is in the Northeast where cool, wet weather last spring prevented many corn acres from being planted.

Soybean producers intend to plant 76.7 million acres in 2001, up 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area for soybeans on record. Of the 31 soybean producing States, producers in 22 States intend to plant more acres this year, while producers in 8 States intend to plant fewer acres than in 2000. Oklahoma is expecting no change from the previous year.

All wheat planted area is expected to total 60.3 million acres in 2001. This is down 4 percent from 2000 and the lowest level since 1973. Area planted to **Durum wheat** is intended to total 3.46 million acres, down 12 percent from 2000. The 2001 **other spring wheat**

planted acreage is estimated at 15.5 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Of the total, about 14.6 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat.

All cotton plantings for 2001 are expected to total 15.6 million acres, up less than 1 percent from last year. If intentions are realized this would be the largest acreage since 1995 and the second largest since 1962. Low cotton prices and high energy costs have limited any significant increase in planting intentions. Upland cotton acreage is expected to total 15.4 million acres, 29,000 acres above 2000. Growers intend to plant 220,000 acres of American-Pima cotton, up 28 percent from last year.

All hay producers expect to harvest 63.8 million acres of hay in 2001, up 7 percent from 59.9 million acres harvested in 2000. Increases are intended in 26 States across the nation. The greatest increase in acreage is planned in the Great Plains States where 2000 acreage was down due to dry conditions. Producers in Texas and Montana intend to increase harvested hay acreage by 1.78 million acres and 500,000 acres, respectively. Sixteen States report no expected changes in acreage.

Peanut producers intend to plant 1.47 million acres of peanuts in 2001, down 5 percent from last year. Of the nine producing States four intend to plant fewer acres in 2001, four will show no change, and one intends to increase peanut acreage. Southeast growers (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) intend to plant 782,000 acres, down 2 percent from a year ago. In the Virginia - North Carolina region, producers intend to plant 199,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Growers in the Southwest (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) intend to plant 484,000 acres, 11 percent below 2000.

Tobacco for harvest in 2001 is forecast at 457,670 acres, down 6 percent from the 2000 crop. If realized, this will be the lowest All-Tobacco acreage level since 1874. Expected acres for harvest were down for Flue-cured, Fire-cured, Light Air-cured, Dark Air-cured and Cigar Filler. Cigar Wrapper and Cigar Binder are up from last season. Flue-cured tobacco, at 245,500 acres, is 2 percent below a year ago. Flue-cured acreage, which accounts for 54 percent of this year's total tobacco acreage, is expected to hit its lowest level in recorded history. Acreage in North Carolina, the leading State, is unchanged from last year.

Prospective plantings for 2001 with comparisons

Crops	Florida				United States			
	1999	2000	Indicated 2001	2001 as % of 2000	1999	2000	Indicated 2001	2001 as % of 2000
	1,000 acres		Percent		1,000 acres		Percent	
Corn:								
Planted for all purposes	90	85	78	92	77,386	79,545	76,693	96
Cotton, Upland planted	107	130	120	92	14,584.0	15,365.0	15,394	100
All Hay, harvested	260	270	270	100	63,220	59,854	63,771	107
Peanuts:								
Planted for all purposes	102	94	95	101	1,534.5	1,543.0	1,465.0	95
Soybeans:								
Planted for all purposes	20	20	15	75	73,730	74,496	76,657	103
Tobacco, harvested								
All types					647.2	485.7	457.7	94
Type 11-14	5.8	4.5	4.5	100	303.8	250.8	245.5	98
Winter wheat	16	13	10	77	43,331	43,348	41,336	95